

Garbage Gazette

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

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First Recycling Report Received in Record Time

The DEP Recycling Program is pleased to announce that the town of Portland has the distinction of having in the earliest Annual Recycling Report for fiscal Year 2000-2001. The Portland report arrived at DEP on July 3, 2001. This is the earliest that any municipal report has ever been received and is really quite an accomplishment considering reports are not due until August 31, 2001. Congratulations to Bob Darna, the town's recycling coordinator, and his hard-working staff!

Teacher's Recycling Kits Available for Connecticut Recycles Day

Teachers in Connecticut will have a new resource available to aid them to celebrate America Recycles Day. One hundred (100) "Teachers Recycling Kits" will be available for distribution in late August of 2001. These kits are designed to provide everything that a teacher will need to fill several hours of classroom time with fun and meaningful activities related to recycling. These kits contain: 2 videos ("Connecticut Recycles Day-Be A Part of It!" & "Garbage" with Bill Nye the Science Guy); a recycling game, 2 books (*Recycled Paper* & *Pirates and Mermaids*); a papermaking kit; a curriculum for grades K-6; literature and samples of recycled products such as toys and office supplies.



These kits are made available through the generous donations of the following companies/organizations: the CRRA Visitors Center, Northeast Utilities, The Connecticut Recyclers Coalition, U.S. EPA, Pfizer and the CT DEP Recycling Office.

The kit made its debut at the annual America Recycles Day Event Organizers Workshop held at the CRRA Visitors Center in late June. The kits are available free, but teachers must agree to share the kit with other teachers at their school and area teachers from other schools. Also, anyone requesting a kit must also send in, or have on file, an event registration form for Connecticut Recycles Day 2001. To learn more about how to reserve one of these kits, or to get a registration form, please contact Meg Enkler at (860) 424-3238 or visit the DEP website at www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/recycle/ctrecycles.htm. These kits are recommended for teachers of grades K-6. If you are a teacher at a nature center, zoo, museum or other non-school facility you are also encouraged to apply to receive a kit.

Connecticut Recyclers Coalition Sponsors Bookmark Contest

There will be two opportunities for student artists in Connecticut to use their talent to promote recycling. CT DEP will continue to sponsor its' annual poster calendar contest for 4th-6th grade students. Twelve winners will be selected and their posters will be used to illustrate a wall calendar.



The Connecticut Recyclers Coalition, in cooperation with DEP, will be sponsoring a design-a-bookmark contest for grades K-12. One design per grade level will be selected. These winning designs will be used as bookmark illustrations. The back of the bookmarks will feature recycling fun facts and information about America Recycles Day. The bookmarks will be distributed to schools and libraries.

as part of our America Recycles Day celebration in 2002. Students in grades 4-6 may enter both contests if they choose. All schools will receive a packet of entry materials and supporting information in late August. The mailing will be sent to the attention of the Principal.

For more information about either of these contests contact Meg Enkler at (860) 424-3238, or visit the DEP website, www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/recycle/ctrecycles.htm.

Ray Cycle Program to Continue for 2001-2002 School Year



The "Ray Cycle" program, CT DEP's assembly program for grades Pre-K - 8, will continue for the upcoming school year. Chris Rowlands, also known as "Ray Cycle," will continue to bring his mix of interactive lecture, dance, art and song to schools to teach the recycling message. Bookings are available starting in September, 2001. The show is free to any public or private school in Connecticut, but a minimum audience of 100 is required to book a show. Only a limited number of show dates are available each year, so contact Virginia Byron at (860) 424-3365 as soon as possible to reserve a date for "Ray Cycle" to visit your school during the 2001-2001 school year.

Teacher's Guide Available from U.S. EPA

The Connecticut DEP Recycling program would like to encourage teachers to visit the U.S. EPA website at www.epa.gov/osw to access some of the excellent materials available to assist them to teach about recycling and solid waste. One of the newer documents that is especially useful is *"The Quest for Less", Activities and Resources for Teaching K-6 - A Teacher's Guide to Reducing, Reusing and Recycling*, document #EPA530-R-00-008, November 2000. This document is over 200 pages and is chock full of activities, updated information and recycling-related facts. Each activity has an objective, an estimate of classroom time needed to complete the activity, a listing of materials needed, a skills listing and student handouts. It is very complete and user friendly. It can be downloaded and printed from the internet. DEP has printed a limited number of copies, available on request to teachers at any Connecticut school. If you are planning on a lesson involving the 3 R's for the 2001-2002 school year, this beautifully prepared document is a must for your classroom. Take a look at the other materials available as well!

Upcoming Meetings

"Harvesting the Future", sponsored by the Used Building Material Association, will be held September 5-8, 2001, at the Portland Hilton in Portland, Oregon. For more information visit their website at www.ubma.org or call toll-free (877) 221-8262.

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